

Table 24. Percent of births with selected medical or health characteristics, by specified race of mother, by place of birth of mother: United States, 1998

Characteristic	All races	White	Black	American Indian ¹	Asian or Pacific Islander					
					Total	Chinese	Japanese	Hawaiian	Filipino	Other
All Births										
Mother										
Prenatal care beginning in the first										
trimester	82.8	84.8	73.3	68.8	83.1	88.5	90.2	78.8	84.2	80.9
Late or no prenatal care	3.9	3.3	7.0	8.5	3.6	2.2	2.1	4.7	3.1	4.2
Smoker ²	12.9	14.0	9.5	20.2	3.1	0.8	4.8	16.8	3.3	2.4
Drinker ³	1.1	1.0	1.4	3.2	0.4	0.2	0.9	1.4	0.4	0.3
Weight gain of less than 16 lbs ⁴	11.3	10.2	16.7	15.3	9.6	5.9	11.0	9.8	7.9	10.8
Median weight gain ⁴	30.5	30.7	29.9	30.2	30.1	30.4	26.0	31.9	30.5	29.8
Cesarean delivery rate	21.2	21.0	22.4	18.6	19.4	19.3	15.6	16.2	22.8	18.9
Infant										
Preterm births ⁵	11.6	10.5	17.5	12.2	10.4	7.6	8.7	12.0	11.8	10.7
Birthweight										
Very low birthweight ⁶	1.4	1.1	3.1	1.2	1.1	0.7	0.8	1.5	1.3	1.1
Low birthweight ⁷	7.6	6.5	13.0	6.8	7.4	5.3	7.5	7.2	8.2	7.8
4,000 grams or more ⁸	10.1	11.2	5.4	12.4	5.9	6.3	4.7	9.5	6.1	5.6
5-minute Apgar score of less than 7 ⁹ ..	1.4	1.2	2.4	1.4	1.1	0.7	0.7	1.3	1.2	1.1
Births to mothers										
born in the 50 States and D.C.										
Mother										
Prenatal care beginning in the first										
trimester	84.2	86.8	73.0	68.7	82.4	91.4	91.8	78.8	81.6	79.0
Late or no prenatal care	3.4	2.6	7.0	8.5	3.9	1.4	1.6	4.7	3.8	5.1
Smoker ²	14.9	15.8	10.4	20.9	10.7	5.9	7.5	17.0	8.4	8.8
Drinker ³	1.2	1.1	1.5	3.3	1.0	*	*	1.4	0.9	0.9
Weight gain of less than 16 lbs ⁴	11.1	9.8	17.1	15.5	8.5	6.7	9.5	9.7	7.8	7.9
Median weight gain ⁴	30.6	30.8	29.9	30.2	30.7	30.3	27.7	31.8	30.8	30.9
Cesarean delivery rate	21.3	21.2	22.1	18.6	16.8	16.9	18.4	16.2	16.4	16.7
Infant										
Preterm births ⁵	11.8	10.5	17.9	12.2	11.2	9.5	10.6	12.1	11.5	11.2
Birthweight										
Very low birthweight ⁶	1.5	1.2	3.1	1.2	1.3	0.9	1.1	1.5	1.4	1.2
Low birthweight ⁷	7.8	6.6	13.4	6.8	7.7	7.6	8.0	7.2	8.4	7.5
4,000 grams or more ⁸	10.3	11.4	5.0	12.6	7.5	6.3	5.7	9.5	6.4	8.0
5-minute Apgar score of less than 7 ⁹ ..	1.5	1.3	2.4	1.4	1.3	*	1.0	1.4	1.1	1.4
Births to mothers										
born outside the 50 Sates and D.C.										
Mother										
Prenatal care beginning in the first										
trimester	77.1	75.7	76.2	71.4	83.3	88.3	88.9	77.4	84.8	81.1
Late or no prenatal care	5.8	6.3	6.4	9.9	3.5	2.2	2.5	*	2.9	4.1
Smoker ²	2.6	3.0	1.8	5.3	1.6	0.4	2.8	*	2.0	1.7
Drinker ³	0.5	0.5	0.4	*	0.3	*	1.0	*	0.2	0.3
Weight gain of less than 16 lbs ⁴	12.2	12.7	13.5	11.8	9.8	5.8	12.0	*	7.9	11.1
Median weight gain ⁴	30.0	29.9	30.1	30.1	29.9	30.4	25.6	33.0	30.4	29.3
Cesarean delivery rate	20.6	20.2	24.7	18.7	19.9	19.6	13.7	17.4	24.4	19.1
Infant										
Preterm births ⁵	10.8	10.6	13.9	12.1	10.2	7.4	7.3	*	11.9	10.6
Birthweight										
Very low birthweight ⁶	1.2	1.0	2.6	1.4	1.1	0.7	0.7	*	1.3	1.1
Low birthweight ⁷	6.5	5.9	9.6	7.3	7.3	5.1	7.1	*	8.2	7.8
4,000 grams or more ⁸	9.0	10.0	8.4	8.0	5.6	6.3	4.0	*	6.0	5.3
5-minute Apgar score of less than 7 ⁹ ..	1.2	1.1	1.9	*	1.0	0.6	*	*	1.2	1.1

* Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision; based on fewer than 20 births in the numerator or denominator.

¹ Includes births to Aleuts and Eskimos.² Excludes data for California, Indiana, New York State (but includes New York City), and South Dakota, which did not report tobacco use on the birth certificate.³ Excludes data for California and South Dakota, which did not report alcohol use on the birth certificate.⁴ Excludes data for California, which did not report weight gain on the birth certificate. Median weight shown in pounds.⁵ Born prior to 37 completed weeks of gestation.⁶ Birthweight of less than 1,500 grams (3 lb 4 oz).⁷ Birthweight of less than 2,500 grams (5 lb 8 oz).⁸ Equivalent to 8 lb 14 oz.⁹ Excludes data for California and Texas, which did not report 5-minute Apgar score on the birth certificate.

NOTE: Race and Hispanic origin are reported separately on birth certificates. In this table all women (including Hispanic women) are classified only according to their race; see Technical notes.